

Claims~~SUB A1~~

1. A T.V. module adapted for use in conjunction with a remotely controllable associated unit, comprising:
 - a remote-control signal transmitter adapted to transmit signals representative of control codes to the associated unit;
 - means adapted to analyze the operation of said associated unit in response to said control codes;
 - a memory operative to store remote-control codes;
 - and
 - an electronic controller operative to cause the transmitter to transmit test control-code signals to the associated unit; analyze the resulting operation of the associated unit in order to determine control codes for the associated unit; and a store the control codes for the associated unit in the memory.
2. The invention of claim 1 in which the T.V. module is a video recorder.
3. The T.V. module of claim 1 wherein the associated unit is a cable tuner/descrambler.
4. The T.V. module of claim 1 wherein the associated unit is a satellite receiver.

5. The T.V. module of claim 1 wherein the associated unit is a video recorder.

6. The T.V. module of claim 1, further including means adapted to receive an output signal from the 5 associated unit, said controller being operative to analyze the output signal in order to determine the operation of the associated unit in response to said test control-code signals.

7. The T.V. module of claim 6 wherein said output 10 signal is a video signal.

8. The T.V. module of claim 7 wherein said controller is operative to analyze the synchronization of said video signal.

9. The T.V. module of claim 1, further 15 comprising a connected T.V. receiver, means to receive an output signal from the receiver, wherein the controller is operative to cause the transmitter to transmit test control-code signals to the receiver; analyze the resulting operation of the receiver in order to determine control 20 codes for the receiver; and store the control codes for the receiver in said memory.

10. The T.V. module of claim 9 wherein said controller is further connected to an audio sensor

operative to receive an acoustic signal from said receiver, and to detect a variation in said acoustic signal.

~~SUB Aa~~

11. In a video recorder adapted for use in conjunction with a remotely controllable associated unit, 5 the video recorder including a remote-control signal transmitter adapted to transmit control signals to the associated unit; means for analyzing the operation of the associated unit; and a memory adapted to store remote-control codes, the method of determining control codes for 10 the associated unit, comprising the steps of:

transmitting test control codes to the associated unit;

analyzing the resulting operation of the associated unit in order to determine its control codes; 15 and

storing the control codes in a memory.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of ^{electronically} analyzing the resulting operation of the associated unit in order to determine its control codes includes the step of 20 analyzing an output signal from the associated unit.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the step of analyzing said output signal includes the step of analyzing a video signal.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the step of analyzing a video signal includes the step of analyzing the synchronization of said video signal.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the step of
5 analyzing said output signal includes the step of analyzing an acoustic signal.